

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

ScholarWorks @ UTRGV

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers -
Newsletters

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers

3-28-1985

Newsletter - 1985-03-28

E. De la Garza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/kikadelagarzanews>



Part of the [State and Local Government Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters, UTRGV Digital Library, The University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers at ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact justin.white@utrgv.edu, william.flores01@utrgv.edu.

NEWSLETTER

99-994

March 28, 1985

Washington DC

DR. DE LA GARZA. Your Congressman was honored by the University of Maryland with a honorary Doctor of Laws degree. This honor we share with you, my constituents, and all who have touched my life along the way.

The degree was conferred on me at their campus in Tokyo, Japan. Also honored was former Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda.

While in Japan we met with Minister of Agriculture Moriyoshi Sato, with Members of the Japanese Diet's Agriculture Committee and with other officials of their government. We also met with USDA Cooperators as well as Japanese buyers of U S products. Also we had the opportunity to visit the Food Fair which is held in Tokyo--our U.S. participation was very encouraging.

The highlight of the visit of course was a meeting with our U S Ambassador, the Honorable Mike Mansfield. He is our former colleague and friend. The former Senate Majority Leader is doing an excellent job for us in Japan. It was a short, but I think productive visit.

#

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT VISITS WASHINGTON. Argentina's first civilian leader elected by its people in many years has paid a state visit to Washington. He is the Honorable Raul Alfonsin--and he arrived in our nation's Capitol on March 19. I had the pleasurable opportunity to speak with the President at a U S State Department luncheon given in his honor as a way of welcoming him to the city.

President Alfonsin addressed a joint session of the Congress on March 20 and it was an excellent speech highlighting the importance of our relationship with this South American country. And on the evening of March 19, the President and Mrs Reagan were host to President and Mrs Alfonsin at a state dinner in the White House. Two former constituents of mine in the 15th Congressional District--and long-time personal friends--attended this state dinner. They were Mr and Mrs John B Armstrong of the King Ranch in Kingsville.

#

FARMERS HOME TO BEGIN PILOT PROJECT IN EDINBURG OFFICE. The USDA didn't look kindly on my attempts to get the President to sign a piece of legislation bringing emergency credit help to our nation's farmers who were in dire straits--but they did listen to me when I explained that the rural housing programs managed by the Agency were swamping our Edinburg FmHA office.

So the USDA has allowed its Farmers Home Administration to set up a pilot management efficiency project for rural housing in Hidalgo County. The project will begin very soon and involves use of contract appraisers and inspectors to free-up some paper work time for the regular FmHA Edinburg staff in the processing of single family home loan applications.

#

UPDATE ON MEXICAN FRUIT FLY. The end may be near for this citrus and fresh fruit pest. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service tells me that by mid-summer, hopefully July, it will declare our Valley area to be "eradicated" and the Agency will revoke the existing quarantine measures.

It has been several months since APHIS has trapped a Mexican fruit fly in our area--and the Mission/Moore Field laboratory has been releasing about nine million sterile fruit flies each week to help combat the problem.

The outlook for total eradication is very bright. If and when APHIS calls a halt to any further citrus zone quarantines (APHIS declares a quarantine whenever fruit flies are found in a growing area), the Agency will rely on the soon-to-be-built sterile fly laboratory at Moore Field to maintain a barrier against fly infestation.

When this new laboratory complex is finished--as I reported in an earlier article in this space--about 20 million flies each week will be released to hopefully preclude the re-entry of Mexican fruit flies to our area.

#

ELSA RESIDENT RECEIVES SBA AWARD. In 1982 I helped Mrs Janie Anzaldua to secure a guaranteed Small Business Administration loan to put her business into high gear, and now three years later she has been selected by the SBA as Texas' Small Business Person of the Year.

This is especially significant because it represents the second time in three years that a Valley resident has been chosen for this honor. Mrs Anzaldua is owner of St Mary's Sewing Industries in Edcouch--and she lives in Elsa.

She has been invited to come to Washington the week of May 5-11 to participate in SBA ceremonies surrounding "Small Business Week." I have written to Mrs Anzaldua and told her the red carpet in front of my office is rolled out for her visit.

#

VISITORS FROM SOUTH TEXAS. Mr and Mrs Bill Butler of Portland. Mr John B Armstrong of the King Ranch in Kingsville.

#